

# CPP ANNUAL USE OF CAPITAL SURVEY - 2010



NAME OF INSTITUTION

(Include Holding Company Where Applicable)

Equity Bancshares, Inc.

Point of Contact:	Bruce Benyshek	RSSD: (For Bank Holding Companies)	3180547
UST Sequence Number:	549	Docket Number: (For Thrift Holding Companies)	
CPP/CDCI Funds Received:	8,750,000	FDIC Certificate Number: (For Depository Institutions)	
CPP/CDCI Funds Repaid to Date:		Credit Union Charter Number: (For Credit Unions)	
Date Funded (first funding):	January 30, 2009	City:	Wichita
Date Repaid <sup>1</sup> :	N/A	State:	Kansas

<sup>1</sup>If repayment was incremental, please enter the most recent repayment date.

American taxpayers are quite interested in knowing how banks have used the money that Treasury has invested under the Capital Purchase Program (CPP) and Community Development Capital Initiative (CDCI). To answer that question, Treasury is seeking responses that describe generally how the CPP/CDCI investment has affected the operation of your business. We understand that once received, the cash associated with TARP funding is indistinguishable from other cash sources, unless the funds were segregated, and therefore it may not be feasible to identify precisely how the CPP/CDCI investment was deployed or how many CPP/CDCI dollars were allocated to each use. Nevertheless, we ask you to provide as much information as you can about how you have used the capital Treasury has provided, and how your uses of that capital have changed over time. Treasury will be pairing this survey with a summary of certain balance sheet and other financial data from your institution's regulatory filings, so to the extent you find it helpful to do so, please feel free to refer to your institution's quarterly call reports to illustrate your answers. This is your opportunity to speak to the taxpayers in your own words, which will be posted on our website.

**What specific ways did your institution utilize CPP/CDCI capital? Check all that apply and elaborate as appropriate, especially if the uses have shifted over time. Your responses should reflect actions taken over the past year (or for the portion of the year in which CPP/CDCI funds were outstanding).**

☒ **Increase lending or reduce lending less than otherwise would have occurred.**

These have been very challenging times for banks of all sizes and most banks, including Equity Bank, lost loan volume during 2010. Loan volume declined \$15 million during the year, but is definitely on the upswing so far in 2011, and the CPP funds are helping in the process.

☐ **To the extent the funds supported increased lending, please describe the major type of loans, if possible (residential mortgage loans, commercial mortgage loans, small business loans, etc.).**

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☒ **Increase securities purchased (ABS, MBS, etc.).**

Investment securities and interest-bearing bank balances in Equity Bank grew by \$67 million in 2010. The growth mostly came in mortgage-backed securities and municipal bonds. Many of the muni bonds purchased were of relatively short length so as to fund loan growth after the recession.

☐ **Make other investments.**

☐ **Increase reserves for non-performing assets.**

☐ **Reduce borrowings.**

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☐ Increase charge-offs.

☐ Purchase another financial institution or purchase assets from another financial institution.

☐ Held as non-leveraged increase to total capital.

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What actions were you able to avoid because of the capital infusion of CPP/CDCI funds?

We were able to avoid being criticized on our capital ratios by our bank subsidiaries' examiners.

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What actions were you able to take that you may not have taken without the capital infusion of CPP/CDCI funds?

We were able to make a lot of contacts for future loan growth in 2011, knowing that these CPP funds were already in-house.

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Please describe any other actions that you were able to undertake with the capital infusion of CPP/CDCI funds.